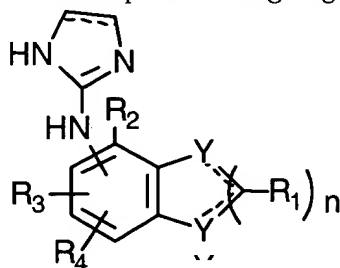


STATUS OF CLAIMS

1-7) Cancelled.

14-20) Cancelled

21) (Currently Amended) A method of ~~treating preventing~~ degeneration of the optic nerve and ~~providing protection of~~ the retinal ganglion cells of a mammal in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a prostaglandin and a therapeutically effective amount of an alpha adrenergic agent of formula (I)



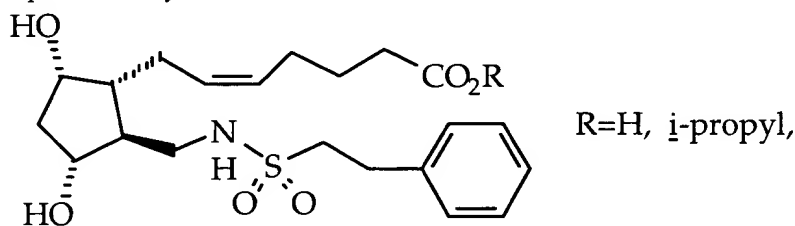
formula (I)

wherein each Y is independently selected from the group consisting of N, N-CH<sub>3</sub>, O, S and C-R<sub>1</sub>; R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen, lower alkyl or oxo; R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, lower alkyl and lower alkenyl; n is an integer from 1 to 3; and a broken line beside a solid line indicates either a single or a double bond, provided that two double bonds are not on the same carbon in the case when n=1, and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters as appropriate.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein the prostaglandin is selected from the group consisting of PGF<sub>2</sub>α, PGE<sub>2</sub>, PGE<sub>1</sub>, prostacyclin, 15(S)-methyl-PGF<sub>2</sub>α, 16,16-dimethyl-PGF<sub>2</sub>α, 15(S)-methyl-PGE<sub>2</sub>α, 16,16-dimethyl-PGE<sub>2</sub>, 17,18,19,20-tetranor-16-phenoxy-PGE<sub>2</sub>, 17,18, 19,20-tetranor-16-phenoxy-PGF<sub>2</sub>α, 18,19,20-trinor-17-phenyl-PGE<sub>2</sub>, 18,19,20-trinor-17-phenyl-PGF<sub>2</sub>α, the free acid and lower alkyl esters of PGF<sub>2</sub>α, wherein the omega chain has been replaced with phenylethylsulfonamidomethyl-, trimoprostil, RS-84-135, rioprostil, S-1033 (15-deshydroxy PGF<sub>2</sub>α, sodium salt), S-747260, nocloprost, CS-412, YPG-209, K-10134, cloprostenol, fluprostenol, luporstiol, etiproston, tiaprost, SQ 27986, ZK 138519, 13,14-dihydro-ZK 138519, ZK 118182, 13,14-dihydro-ZK 118182, ZK 110841, 13,14-dihydro-ZK 110841, PhXA41 (latanoprost), RO-221327, HR-466, HR-601, ONO-

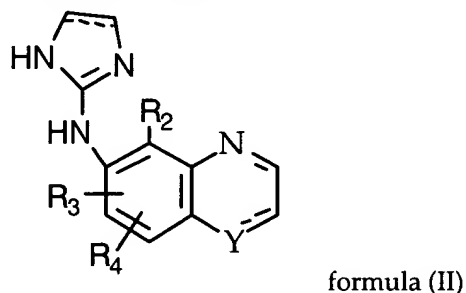
1206, UFO-21, 11-deoxy-PGE2, 11-deoxy-PGF2 $\alpha$ , 11-deoxy-16,16-dimethyl-PGE2, 11-deoxy-15(S)-methyl-PGE2, 11-deoxy-15(S)-methyl-PGF2 $\alpha$ , misoprostol, enisoprost, MDL-646, CL-115,574, CL-115,347, TR-4161, TR-4752, TR-4367, CP-27987, sulprostone, gemeprost, alfaprostol, delprostenate, prostalene, fenprostalene, CL-116,069, ONO-995 and RO-229648, and their pharmaceutically acceptable esters and salts, as appropriate.

23) (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein the prostaglandin is selected from the group consisting of PGF2 $\alpha$ -11-pivalyl ester, the 1-amido-15-methyl ether of PGF2 $\alpha$ , 1-ethylamido-18,19,20-trinor-17-phenyl-PGF2 $\alpha$ , PGF2 $\alpha$ -1-ethyl ester, PGF2 $\alpha$ -1-isopropyl ester, the acid and isopropyl ester derivatives of PGF2 $\alpha$  wherein the omega chain has been replaced with phenylethylsulfonamidomethyl-, as represented by the structure below:



RO-229648, SQ 27986, ZK 138519, 13,14-dihydro-ZK 138519, ZK 110841, 13,14-dihydro-ZK 110841, PhXA41, and 18,19,20-trinor-17-phenyl-PGF2 $\alpha$ -1-methyl ester.

24) (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein the alpha adrenergic agent is selected from the group consisting of formula (II) wherein Y is N or O, R2 is bromine or methyl and all other variables are defined as in claim 14



25) (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein the alpha adrenergic agent is brimonidine (5-bromo-N-(4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-6-quinoxalinamine).

26) Cancelled

27) (Currently amended) The ~~article~~ method of claim 21 wherein the prostaglandin is the 11-pivalyl ester of PGF<sub>2</sub> $\alpha$  and the alpha adrenergic agent is brimonidine.